

RESOURCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
FRESNO COUNTY
January 13, 2010

AGENDA

Meeting commenced at 6:00 pm at the High Sierra Ranger District office in Prather. RAC committee members in attendance: Allen Clyde, Barbara Ferguson, Patrick Emmert, Shane Krogen, Toby Horst, Patrick Kelly, Chris Oberti, Roger Welton, Loran Martin, Kirby Molen, Larry Wilder, Bea Olsen and Chuck Peck.

Forest Service representatives: Ray Porter, John Exline, Robbin Ekman, and Sue Exline.

CALL TO ORDER

INTRODUCTIONS OF MEMBERS & PUBLIC

PAST PROJECT REPORTS

1. Wilderness Program-High Sierra RD, Justin Robbins provided a quick overview of the accomplishments of the Wilderness Program funded by the RAC.
2. Central Valley Consortium-Jim Oftedal and Lily Nieves presented the accomplishments for the Generation Green Youth Project funded by the RAC.

PROJECT PRESENTATIONS

Presenter	Organization/Agency	Project Proposal	RAC Funds Requested
Tracy Rowland Stephanie	Sierra Unified School District/BLM	Hands on the Land Summer Science Project -Project funds will be used to put Sierra HS kids to work on projects on the Sierra NF and SCE lands. Additional funds were also requested to cover the salary of the coordinator for Sierra Unified.	Funds Requested: \$84,400 (Tracy) Funds Requested: \$55,000 (Stephanie) This will likely change as Tracy and Stephanie are revising their proposal.
Wendy Garton Jeff Hannel	Buck Rock Foundation	Fire Lookout Restoration Project Funds would be used to pay per diem and travel for volunteers along with materials and supplies to do restoration on three lookouts located in the Sierra and Sequoia NF.	Funds Requested: \$13,550
Lily Nieves Jim Oftedal	Central California Consortium	Generation Green Youth Project Funds would be used to put youth to work on the Sierra and Sequoia NF.	Funds Requested: \$37,559

Presenter	Organization/Agency	Project Proposal	RAC Funds Requested
Justin Robbins	Sierra NF	Wilderness Rangers Funds would be used to hire three wilderness rangers to work in the John Muir Wilderness	Funds Requested: \$47,000
Ted Fisher	Backcountry Horseman	SRCD/BCHC Backcountry Work Projects Funds would be us for recognizance trips, two eight day work parties in the Edison Lake and Crown Valley areas and trash collection pack trips to areas in the Sierra NF.	Funds Requested: \$14,000
Mark Cave	Local OHV Clubs	Funds would be used to improve unimproved campsites in the Sierra National Forest	Funds requested: \$20,000
Julie Lockman	Clean Forest Initiative	Funds would be used to clean up illegal dumpsites and abandoned vehicles in the Sierra National Forest. Restore dumpsites and monitor. Sponsor anti-dumping education programs and conduct trail maintenance and other stewardship projects.	Funds Requested: \$80,000
Steve Haze	Chawanakee School	Waste Water Management System Upgrade Funds would be used to replace the septic waste water management system at the Chawanakee Learning Center.	Funds Requested: \$8,500
Shane Krogen	High Sierra Volunteer Trail Crew	Funds would be used for three separate projects. Monarch Wilderness Kanawyer Trail maintenance project. Funds requested: \$12,664 John Muir Wilderness/PCT - Adopt 28 miles of trail and do routine maintenance. Funds requested: \$26,692. Huntington Lake Trails -Do maintenance on 11 miles of trails at Huntington Lake.	Total Funds Requested: \$43,010
Carol Hallacy (Presentation made at the November RAC Mtg.)	Sequoia NF	Ten Mile Overflow Concentrated Use area -Funds would be used to purchase and install a vault toilet.	Funds Requested: \$14,590
			Total Funds Requested For All Projects: \$417,209.00

Questions regarding the proposals:

Hands on the Land Summer Science Project-Alan Clyde asked that Tracy Rowland remove the Dinkey Pack Station project from her proposal. Tracy will resubmit the project proposal removing the project. Barbara Ferguson had a question about the funding request for the project? Tracy said that the project funds could be reduced which would mean fewer kids in the program. Sierra Unified is also requested funding from the RAC for the program coordination and to pay the salary of an employee to provide environmental education programs. A question was asked if Sierra Unified had any other funding for the Coordinator position. They stated that their stated BLM grant had expired and that they did not have an additional funding source. They are looking at other funding sources such as the Sierra Nevada Conservancy. Stephanie and Tracy are going to work together to revise the Project Proposal and budget and get a copy to RAC members.

Fire Lookout Restoration Project-The question was asked, where are the other contributing funds coming from? The additional funds come from donations from the Buck Rock Foundation.

Generation Green Youth Project-Question was asked if there are Southeast Asians on the crew? The answer was yes.

Wilderness Ranger Project-Question was asked, are the Ranger positions seasonal or permanent? The employees are seasonal not permanent employees. Will any of the employees be available from last year? Yes.

Backcountry Horseman Project-Where is Maxson Basin? Maxson Basin is above Maxon Lake. Question was asked about monitoring and the \$2,500 in the budget? The \$2,500 is to pay for Forest Service employees to monitor the project. The questions was asked, are the monitoring funds needed if the RAC funds the Wilderness Rangers proposal? Need clarification from Mike Ketscher. Question was asked about the \$80,000 contribution shown on the budget. It is the time contributed by the volunteers.

Improve Unimproved Campsites- The question was asked, on the budget worksheet, Item L, what is the \$5,000 for? The \$5,000 covers money for volunteers' food, gas, etc.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 27, 2010, 6pm Clovis.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.